



2008 National Library Week Quiz

General Legal – Answers

1. Which of the following improbably-named cases is not real?

- a. Sand v. Beach
- b. Plough v. Fields
- c. People v. Takencareof
- d. People v. Justice
- e. Pain v. Suffer

Answer: Pain v. Suffer is the fake.

Sand v. Beach: 200 NE 821 (NY 1036); 281 NYS 981 (1935); 280 NYS 789 (1935)

Plough v. Fields: 422 F2d 824 (9th Cir. 1970)

People v. Takencareof: 119 Cal App 3d 492 (1981)

People v. Justice: Unreported CA case; 731 NW2d 730 (Mich. 2007)

2. Which of the following cases was a joke that accidentally got published in the bound reporter?

- a. *U.S. ex. Rel. Mayo v. Satan and His Staff*, 54 FRD 282 (W.D. Pa. 1971)
- b. *Catt v. State*, 691 SW2d 120 (Ark. 1985)
- c. *Lodi v. Lodi*, 173 Cal. App. 3d 628 (1985)
- d. *Oil & Gas Futures of Texas, Inc. of Texas v. Andrus*, 610 F.2d 287 (5th Cir. 1980)

Answer: In 1985 April Fool's Day fell on the day the Arkansas Supreme Court normally issues its decisions. Justice George Rose Smith seized this opportunity and wrote a fictitious opinion, *Catt v. State*. *Catt* was written to appear genuine, although Justice Smith did provide a few clues, such as the citation to a precedent of a single word:

"Can they hide behind their guilty knowledge? We cannot better answer that question than by quoting the elegant language of Chief Justice Harris, speaking for a unanimous court: "No!" *Commercial Printing Co. v. Lee*, 262 Ark. 87, 553 S.W.2d 270 (1977)."

West mistakenly published the opinion in the bound reporter, although the decision does not appear in any West indexes, digests, or Westlaw. Justice Smith believes it

to be the only fictitious opinion published in the National Reporter System.

3. It is against federal law to impersonate which of the following fictitious characters?

- a. Minnie Mouse
- b. Smokey the Bear
- c. Donald Duck
- d. All of the above

Answer: Smokey the Bear. See 18 U.S. Code §711.

4. Which of these is not a real law book title?

- a. A Treatise on the Law of Sewers: Including the Drainage Acts
- b. Deductibility of Legal and Accounting Fees, Bribes and Illegal Payments
- c. Law of Cadavers: and of Burial and Burial Places, 2d ed.
- d. Jurismania: The Madness of American Law

Answer: They are all real law book titles!

Paul F. Campos, *Jurismania: The Madness of American Law* (1998)
Christopher G. Stoneman, *Deductibility of Legal and Accounting Fees, Bribes and Illegal Payments* (1999-)
Percival E. Jackson, *Law of Cadavers: and of Burial and Burial Places*, 2d ed. (1950)
Humphry Woolrych, *A Treatise of the Law of Sewers: Including the Drainage Acts* (1864)

5. Which state had the most lawyers per capita in 2007?

- a. New York
- b. Delaware
- c. Florida
- d. Illinois

Answer: New York, with 20.4 lawyers per 10,000 residents.
District of Columbia has the highest concentration of attorneys at 276.7 per 10,000 residents, but it's not a state.
Utah tied for 22nd place with 9.1 attorneys per 10,000 residents.